Woman's Executive Committee of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church.

A New Setting for . . . Las Vegas, N. M., School.

A recent letter from Las Vegas School tells of little Mexican Isadora, one of the pupils there, who had been helping to make the kitchen bright and clean. "After the scouring was all accomplished," her teacher writes, "she looked admiringly around, saying, 'How nice, how nice!' Now I think we ought to sing the little song you told me—'Jesus Bids Us Shine.'" Isadora's application is a happy one for us. We want that Presbyterian Mission School, set in a land of moral darkness, to *shine*. It's light was kindled, as a little day school, twenty four years ago by Rev. Mr. Annin, who kept it trimmed for eleven years, when other workers took his place. In 1886 it was made a boarding school in order to do the work its situation and surroundings demanded, for it is a school finely located in the

center of a large Mexican population. Its value in that benighted, priest-ridden land can hardly be estimated. One of the most enterprising citizens in Las Vegas said when the boarding department was opened: "I am glad to see that good work: it is the hope of our people. I was brought up a Romanist, but I am down on this system of priest-craft that has robbed our children of their birthright in our schools. These priests profess to be the friends of education, but they have had our land for more than three hundred years and what have they done for us?"

The school has steadily prospered in spite of opposing forces; the teachers are consecrated and faithful, and the Mexican children overcrowd the building. Wonderful possibilities unfold before the workers, who know the environment, who feel the pressure and see the promising outlook.

The leaflet, "New Mexico," published by the Woman's Executive Committee (price one cent), will be found helpful in its information concerning the people of this part of our land, and their gross superstition and ignorance, from which the fostering care of our few schools saves many bright Mexican boy and girls.

This important school at Las Vegas has long

since outgrown its poor quarters—which never were adequate to the demands of the field. The old adobe building, with its scaly walls and musty rooms, is an unfit home for teachers and pupils even if it were large enough. It has been conscientiously patched up and enlarged, but it will answer no longer. It is unworthy of the great working force of women to whose care the Presbyterian church has committed this school work. Five years ago double the capacity of the school was a manifest necessity, and the pressure has increased year by year, until we can no longer hesitate. We must do this work of the Lord better. The Board of Home Missions has approved of the plan to spend ten thousand dollars in erecting a new and commodious building that shall properly represent Presbyterian women at a most important point. It rests now with the friends of this school work, so potent for good in many dark corners of our land, to make Las Vegas school shine brighter than ever, because of a suitable new setting, where little Isadora and hundreds of her race can be better taught that "Jesus bids us shine."

Will not the women of our churches say: "The God of Heaven, He will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build?"